

A Global Outreach

Our Work in Africa

Meet Lamech

We're pleased to introduce you to our **Africa Program Manager, Lamech Katamba**! He lives in Uganda with his wife and three children. Lamech is an indispensable member of The Albert Baker Fund (ABF) team, as he's our eyes, ears and feet on the ground for our Africa program.

With ABF serving 11 different countries in Africa, Lamech has his work cut out for him, as he visits the various Christian Science communities to inform, support and sometimes verify the potential scholarship recipients. Last year, ABF awarded scholarships to 191 African students. **Since 2004, we've awarded 2,928 scholarships and \$3,626,453 in Africa.** These scholarships are highly valued, to the extent that the local Christian Scientists carefully protect them, so that ABF scholarships continue to be available in the future.

The requirements for our African students are as follows:

- A student of Christian Science
- A member of The Mother Church
- Making satisfactory progress toward a degree or certificate (good grades)
- A citizen where attending school
- Enrollment in an ABF-approved school
- In financial need, as determined by In-Country Representatives (ICRs)
- Ability to pay any remaining school bills

Aiding Lamech in Africa is our second full-time staff member, Dominique Bit'a Beling, our Africa Processing Agent. In addition, there are 19 African ICRs

who volunteer for ABF. With 11 African countries to cover, it's a lot of work and travel! And, as one can imagine, each country has its own rules and regulations regarding scholarships. We value the tireless and joyful effort that both Lamech and Dominique put into their work.

The ABF staff had the pleasure of hosting Lamech during his recent visit to the United States. He was able to meet with several donors in California, Texas and Boston as he traveled around the country. ABF donors, Board of Trustees and staff delighted in hearing firsthand about the challenges and many successes of our program throughout Africa. We loved introducing Lamech to Mexican lunches and 3D Marvel movies. We look forward to his next visit!

Lamech Katamba
ABF Africa Program Manager



Advancing the Legacy of Albert Baker

Building Community

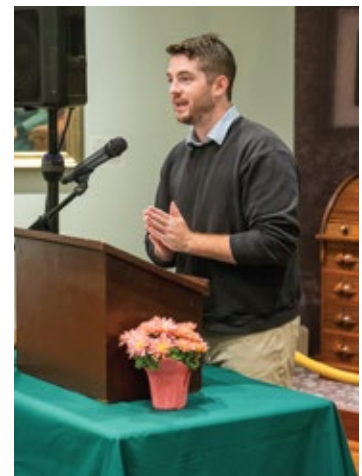


2025 Mother Church Annual Meeting event

This year ABF students and staff were treated to a wonderful visit to Longyear Museum in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts. After a delicious BBQ lunch, Longyear staff member Noah Ostler took everyone through a game of Kahoot! that tested and expanded their knowledge of Mary Baker Eddy's life journey.

We are quite grateful to Powell Crown Foundation for funding this fun and meaningful event!

For the second year in a row, The Albert Baker Fund was able to offer funding for transportation to The Mother Church Annual Meeting in Boston for ABF recipients studying in the United States. Isabel Foundation made the funding possible, and we are so grateful for their support.



TOP: The whole gang in front of Longyear Museum.
LOWER TOP LEFT: Powell Crown President Leslie Greenman chatting with students at the Longyear Museum lunch.
LOWER RIGHT TOP: Noah Ostler leads a fun game for the crowd.
BOTTOM: Isabel Foundation again hosted a delightful dinner at the Brazilian restaurant, Fogo de Chão. Seen here is ABF CEO Joe Ritter (second from left) and Isabel Foundation President Tiffany Lovett (third from the right).

Donor Profile

Chris and Diana Bayes

Changing the world, one student at a time

While filling in as the clerk of a local Christian Science church in Colorado, Chris Bayes stumbled upon a flyer for The Albert Baker Fund tucked away in a corner of the church. He hadn't heard of the organization before, but after doing some research, he and his wife Diana were taken by the mission of ABF.

They were looking for organizations to support based on their desire to help people find Christianity as a way of bettering lives, since Christian Science has been so instrumental in their own experience. **In answering the question they posed for themselves, "Where's the biggest need?" they felt that Christian Science African students receiving a good education, while encouraging their study of Christian Science, could change not only the students' lives but also their community and potentially the world.** With ABF awarding almost 200 student scholarships for Africans to attend schools in their own countries last year, the Bayes' twofold goal of spreading Christian Science and supporting those with great need, is being met by ABF. It has since become the number one priority in their philanthropic giving.

They are excited about the emerging influence and vibrancy of Christian Science in African communities. By supporting ABF, they can enhance their prayers for the world with the practical support of providing scholarship grants as well. As Diana explains, **"We have been so blessed in our lives, we just want to help where we can do the most good."** Chris adds, **"It's not just philanthropy — it's changing lives through prayer."** That includes domestic students in need, as well as international students.

Chris and Diana Bayes
ABF Donors

Having both retired, Diana and Chris recently relocated from Colorado to a new home outside Houston, Texas. They had been looking for a place along the Gulf Coast, and Chris jokingly adds that they found their new house because "we got lost on the highway." Now happily settled, they enjoy sailing in the Gulf and boating on Texas lakes, undaunted by the talk of alligators in the area.

In May, while Lamech Katamba (see the first article) was visiting the Houston area, the Bayes were able to meet with him and hear firsthand about the good work ABF is doing to help lift African students into higher educational opportunities and to support their study of Christian Science.

Their loving philanthropy is a powerful reminder of the significant impact of contributions to the mission of ABF. We hope you'll join the Bayes by supporting Christian Science students around the world!



**The ALBERT
BAKER Fund**

111 Woodmere Road, Suite 210, Folsom, CA 95630

(916) 594-9513 admin@albertbakerfund.org albertbakerfund.org

Albert Baker Fund Board of Trustees: Chair, Alistair Savides; Vice Chair, Lisa Mietchen; Secretary, Katie Stanley; Treasurer, Craig Donaldson
Members: D. Brian Boettiger, Dr. Joan Bernard Bradley, Hilary Harper-Wilcoxon, Trudy Palmer, John Strout, Ray Thompson, David Westphal
Chief Executive Officer: Dr. Joseph (Joe) M. Ritter

ABF Global Travel

Are you ready for a once-in-a-lifetime trip?

We are so excited for our first-ever global travel excursion hosted by The Albert Baker Fund! If you haven't yet signed up, there are still a few spots left. To register, go to: <https://www.gonext.com/groups/albert-baker-fund>

Join us July 29 – August 13, 2026, on a cruise from Copenhagen to Reykjavik with stops in Sweden, Norway, Scotland, and Denmark. Along the way, you'll not only experience the sights and sounds of these amazing countries, but **you'll also get to meet face-to-face with some of our international ABF students who are attending university abroad.** You'll also witness the total solar eclipse in Reykjavik, Iceland, on August 12, 2026.



Educating Christian Scientists, Blessing the World

111 Woodmere Rd., Suite 210, Folsom, CA 95630